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HILO-KOHALA RAILROAD.

P. Peck States in Honolulu That Road is Assured.

Hilo has always been known as a conservative town, so that when the announcement is made that Philip Peck, one of the foremost business men of the place, has taken up the financial end of the Hilo-Kohala Railway proposition, people all over the Islands will know at once that it is a go. It has taken years for the men at the back of the proposition to bring their plans to a successful termination, but the time that has elapsed has given people interested a chance to look into what has been offered, and the keen scrutiny has located a business proposition of the very first water. With Philip Peck at the helm, Hilo will very soon see the Hilo-Kohala railway an accomplished fact. This Hilo financier was seen by a Bulletin reporter previous to his departure for his home today, and in answer to various questions, made reply substantially as follows:

"It was only a short time ago that I was authorized to handle the financial end of the Hilo-Kohala Railroad and, of course, I am proceeding very carefully indeed in the matter of giving out information. The whole plan of action has not been settled on yet, so I would prefer stating only in a general way what has been accomplished and what is in contemplation.

"I do not mind saying that a part of the money to carry on the work has already been secured. Just what the amount is I would prefer not to say. This capital is from the Mainland, and I am of the opinion that the remainder of the money for carrying on the work will also come from sources outside of the Islands. I do not think that there will be any local capital.

"I am going to the Coast on the steamer of October 15 and will then attend to financial matters in connection with the railroad. My trip to Honolulu was also in the interests of the railroad.

"I do not mind saying that the Hilo-Kohala Railroad is a go and that, as soon as possible, work will be started on the first section, covering a distance of fifteen miles and running out of Hilo. Just when this will be started I cannot say just now.

"The stock of the company is not yet in condition to be placed on the market and until this and other matters in connection with the proposition have been settled, I do not feel justified in giving out very much specific information."

The franchise to the promoters of the Hilo-Kohala Railway Company was granted about the middle of 1898 to H. B. Gehr, Jaudon Brown, G. K. Wilder, John S. Walker and J. W. Jones, W. O. Smith acting as attorney for the people applying for the concession, or franchise.

After the franchise had been secured, surveys were made by a party of engineers, of which John Cargill, formerly of the Pennsylvania system of the United States, was chief. The work started at Waiakea, near Hilo, went across through Hilo and thence to Mahukona, a distance of ninety miles. Four different lines of survey were run in order to secure the best possible location, the work costing in the neighborhood of \$30,000.

Finally, the best location was selected and location and profile maps of the route surveyed were submitted to the Government. However, no action was taken by the Government until June of 1901, when a portion of the plans submitted were approved. Another portion was approved this year, and now there is left just one mile of the proposed railway site to be approved of. It would seem, from inquiry in reliable places, that this approval will be forthcoming very soon.

The present temporary officers, constituting also the board of directors, are as follows: H. B. Gehr, J. F. Brown, W. George Ashley, J. S. Walker, J. W. Jones, A. M. Brown and H. A. Wilder. W. O. Smith is the attorney for the corporation. Evening Bulletin.

ANOTHER WRIGHT WRONG.

Assessor At Waimea Short and Ordered Arrested.

Honolulu, October 1. — Walter A. Wright, former deputy tax assessor for Waimea District, Kauai, and a brother of ex-Treasurer Wright, is alleged to be short in his accounts to the amount of \$2,848.40 and an officer left on the island yesterday afternoon, with instructions to place him under arrest. This Wright is under bonds and the Territory will consequently not lose by the shortage. The report of the defalcation was first brought to Treasurer Cooper yesterday by E. E. Conant, Assessor of the Island of Kauai.

The shortage in Deputy Assessor Wright's accounts was known to Treasurer Wright some months ago and the latter promised Assessor Conant that it would be made good. It has been persistently rumored since the flight of the Treasurer that the money taken by him was not used for his personal benefit, but help others out of trouble. As far as this case is concerned however, the treasurer did not seek to make it good.

Treasurer Wright's attention was called to his brother's defalcation upon his visit to Kauai some months ago, and after an investigation, Walter A. Wright was suspended as deputy assessor for Waimea district, and the treasurer agreed to see that the shortage was made up. This was not done and when the treasurer's sudden flight from Honolulu became known in Lihue, Mr. Conant immediately came to Honolulu to inform the authorities of the occurrence.

Secretary Cooper said yesterday that the Territory would not lose anything by this most recent defalcation, as Wright was under bonds, and recovery could be had from the bondsmen. Criminal proceedings are also to be instituted charging Wright with embezzlement and an officer was sent over on the Kauai yesterday to arrest him. The shortage in this instance amounting to \$2,848.40 is said to have occurred in the failure of Wright to turn over to the assessor the collections made by him in the Waimea district.

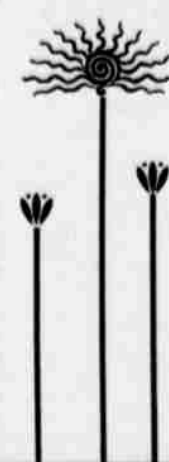
CASTRO USES OUR WARSHIP.

Under Its Protection Approached a Town and Then Made an Attack.

Port of Spain (Island of Trinidad), Sept. 24.—A leading German merchant who recently escaped from Ciudad Bolivar, arrived here yesterday and made a statement under oath before the officials here setting forth that on August 20th the Venezuelan war ship Restaurador, when steaming up the Orinoco river for the second time in order to again bombard Ciudad Bolivar, hoisted the American flag in order to be able to reach that city without arousing the suspicions of the inhabitants of that city as to her identity, and that by this strategy the Restaurador reached the custom-house at Ciudad Bolivar and immediately opened fire on the center of the city, causing loss of life and damage to property in the quarters inhabited by foreigners. The merchant also stated that the foreign Consuls and all the population of Ciudad Bolivar protested against the action of the Restaurador.

Washington, Sept. 24.—The singular circumstances reported by the German merchant in the above cablegram was explained by the reception of two cablegrams from United States Minister Bowen, at Caracas, at the State Department this afternoon. The first dispatch stated that the Venezuelan gunboat Restaurador had approached Ciudad Bolivar flying the American flag. She did not lower the flag until she was very close to the shore, when she opened fire upon the insurgents from her position there, creating great consternation. When the Restaurador returned to La Guayra the fact was reported to Minister Bowen, who indignantly demanded a complete apology from the Venezuelan Government and also that the flag of the United States be saluted by the offending ship.

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Agent for the Hawaiian Islands.

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